

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

- 1 1. A method for order confirmation in a supply chain management framework,
2 comprising:
 - 3 a) collecting data from a plurality of stores of a supply chain utilizing a network, the
4 data relating to the sale of goods by the stores;
 - 5 b) allowing access to the data utilizing a network-based interface;
 - 6 c) generating electronic order forms based on the data for ordering goods from a
7 plurality of distributors of the supply chain, the electronic order forms requesting
8 a confirmation of the receipt of the electronic order forms;
 - 9 d) determining whether the confirmation of the receipt of the electronic order forms
10 is received from the distributors;
 - 11 e) generating an alert upon it being determined that the confirmation of the receipt of
12 the electronic order forms was not from the distributors.
- 1 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the confirmation is received utilizing the
2 network.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the network includes the Internet.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1, wherein the alert is transmitted to the stores utilizing the
2 network.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4, wherein the alert is displayed on the network-based
2 interface.
- 1 6. The method of claim 4, wherein the alert includes an electronic mail message.

- 1 7. A system for order confirmation in a supply chain management framework,
2 comprising:
 - 3 a) logic for collecting data from a plurality of stores of a supply chain utilizing a
4 network, the data relating to the sale of goods by the stores;
 - 5 b) logic for allowing access to the data utilizing a network-based interface;
 - 6 c) logic for generating electronic order forms based on the data for ordering goods
7 from a plurality of distributors of the supply chain, the electronic order forms
8 requesting a confirmation of the receipt of the electronic order forms;
 - 9 d) logic for determining whether the confirmation of the receipt of the electronic
10 order forms is received from the distributors;
 - 11 e) logic for generating an alert upon it being determined that the confirmation of the
12 receipt of the electronic order forms was not from the distributors.
- 1 8. The system of claim 7, wherein the confirmation is received utilizing the network.
- 1 9. The system of claim 8, wherein the network includes the Internet.
- 1 10. The system of claim 7, wherein the alert is transmitted to the stores utilizing the
2 network.
- 1 11. The system of claim 10, wherein the alert is displayed on the network-based
2 interface.
- 1 12. The system of claim 10, wherein the alert includes an electronic mail message.
- 1 13. A computer program product for order confirmation in a supply chain
2 management framework, comprising:
 - 3 a) computer code for collecting data from a plurality of stores of a supply chain
4 utilizing a network, the data relating to the sale of goods by the stores;
 - 5 b) computer code for allowing access to the data utilizing a network-based interface;

- 6 c) computer code for generating electronic order forms based on the data for
- 7 ordering goods from a plurality of distributors of the supply chain, the electronic
- 8 order forms requesting a confirmation of the receipt of the electronic order forms;
- 9 d) computer code for determining whether the confirmation of the receipt of the
- 10 electronic order forms is received from the distributors;
- 11 e) computer code for generating an alert upon it being determined that the
- 12 confirmation of the receipt of the electronic order forms was not from the
- 13 distributors.

1 14. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the confirmation is received
2 utilizing the network.

1 15. The computer program product of claim 14, wherein the network includes the
2 Internet.

1 16. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the alert is transmitted to the
2 stores utilizing the network.

1 17. The computer program product of claim 16, wherein the alert is displayed on the
2 network-based interface.

1 18. The computer program product of claim 16, wherein the alert includes an
2 electronic mail message.